

**Scope Notes for Local Classification System used for
Audio Materials in the Lipscomb University Music Library**

A Art songs & arias

Solo songs or duets from the Classical or Broadway tradition. Includes aria collections when works are not from the same opera or cannot be taken as a condensed version of the opera. Accompaniment typically does not affect classification in this category (may be piano, lute, orchestra, etc.).

B Operas

Stage works in which the primary interest is the singing; includes musical theater. Typically limited to complete works or nearly complete works, such as an excerpts album from a single opera or a cast recording of a musical.

C Choral

Works in which chorus is the predominant feature, including non-theatrical narrative works such as oratorios.

D Overtures

Orchestral works used as the prelude to a stage work, or a piece written in this style.

E Symphonic poems & suites

Orchestral works that are not symphonies or overtures, and are not primarily choral. Also includes ballets, incidental music for film or theater.

F Symphonies

Orchestral works that are titled symphony, are primarily for orchestra, and have multiple movements.

G Keyboard music

Solo or ensemble music involving only piano, harpsichord, or organ. Typically this will be in a classical or historic genre; jazz and popular keyboard music (even if using only solo piano) will fall under category K.

H Concertos

Works for solo or small solo group of instruments with orchestra.

I Chamber music

Works for solo instruments or instrumental ensembles of up to 12 instruments, if not considered a full ensemble (orchestra or band) during the period in which it was written.

J Anthologies

Collections in which no single work or genre is predominant enough to justify classification in another category. Typical candidates for this category are sampler CDs containing excerpts of numerous works, or collections containing a variety of both vocal and instrumental music.

K Jazz & popular music

Western music from the 19th century to the present composed and performed primarily for popular audiences and for profit. Excludes musical theater vocal material, which goes under A or B.

L Electronic music

Music in which electronic production or manipulation of sound is of primary interest. Does not include jazz or popular music using electronic instruments unless the work is of a particularly experimental (non-mainstream) type.

M Wind music

Music for ensembles composed primarily of wind instruments. If the ensemble is not 12 or more players, category I (chamber music) is preferred unless the ensemble is considered to be a “wind band” in the definition of its own era (for example, some 19th-century brass band music).

N Guitar music

Solo or duet music for guitar, lute, or related instruments. Typically this will be solo or duet music in a classical or historic genre; jazz or popular music for solo guitar (even if unaccompanied) will fall under category K.

O World music

Music from non-Western cultures, or from Western folk traditions not typically included under category K (usually this means that the music is non-commercial).